



**UTAH
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UTAH CROP WEATHER

Issue 21 Week Ending 8/20/00
Released 8/21/00

Of the 40 stations reporting, 32 reported measurable precipitation. Precipitation was moderate across the state. Panguitch reported the highest precipitation with 0.97 inch. Other stations reporting precipitation were: Escalante with 0.72 inch; Kanab with 0.71 inch; Richfield Radio with 0.47 inch; Duchesne with 0.46 inch; and Blanding with 0.45 inch. Sixteen of the 32 stations reporting reported less than 0.10 inches.

This past week temperatures were above normal. St. George reported the highest temperature for the week with 106 degrees. Other high temperatures were reported at: Hanksville and Zion National Park with 105 degrees, Moab with 104 degrees, Arches National Park with 103 degrees; and Delta and Tooele with 102 degrees.

Woodruff reported the lowest temperature for the week with 34 degrees. Other low temperatures were reported at Silver Lake Brighton and Trenton with 46 degrees; Scofield-Sky Mine with 47 degrees; Heber and Panguitch with 48 degrees; and Rosette with 49 degrees.

Major farm and ranch activities included harvesting alfalfa and grass hay, small grains, and peaches. Problems with thrips in onions and mites in corn. Fields are being prepared for fall grain planting. Some ranchers are removing livestock from summer ranges early and others are preparing to due to poor range conditions and fires. Scattered showers provided little relief from the drought. There were 7 days suitable for field work.

Winter wheat was 92 percent harvested, ahead of 1999 by 15 percentage points. Winter wheat condition was 35 percent poor, 41 percent fair, and 24 percent good. Spring wheat harvested was 77 percent, ahead of 1999 by 5 points and ahead of the five-year average by 4 points. Barley harvested for grain was 87 percent harvested, ahead of 1999 by 11 points and the average by 14 points. Oats harvested for grain were 58 percent,

8 points ahead of last year and the five-year average by 6 points. Corn tasseled (silked) was 85 percent, behind 1999 by 1 percentage point, but ahead of the 5 year average by 4 points. Corn in dough stage was 24 percent, ahead of 1999 by 9 points and average by 9 points. Corn height was 88 inches, 6 inches taller than 1999, and 13 inches ahead of the five-year average. Alfalfa hay third cutting was 40 percent, ahead of 1999 by 22 points and the five-year average by 13 points. Peaches picked were 31 percent, ahead of 1999 by 4 points but behind the five-year average by 6 points.

Topsoil moisture was 38 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 25 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture was 37 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 26 percent adequate.

Range and pastures were 18 percent very poor, 41 percent poor, 31 percent fair, and 10 percent good. Irrigation water supplies were 34 percent very short, 37 percent short, and 29 percent adequate. Stock water supplies were 16 percent very short, 41 percent short, 43 percent adequate.

Note: State crop weather narratives are available on the Internet through the NASS Home Page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.usda.gov/nass/> or from JAWF at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>.

Climatological Data and Statistics for August 12-18, 2000

Division and Station	Temperature						Precipitation				Evapotranspiration			
	Maximum			Minimum			Week Total	Since October 1			Week Total	Since March 1		
	High	Avg	Dep	Low	Avg	Dep		Accum	Dep	% Norm		Accum	Dep	% Norm
Western		94	5.3		59	4.3	0.15	4.85	-2.32	65	1.71	37.05	2.85	108
Callao	97	94	5.9	54	60	4.4	0.00	2.36	-3.06	44	1.76	36.43	3.78	112
Delta	102	97	6.9	52	60	3.6	0.01	5.65	-1.54	79	1.89	37.54	3.21	109
Eskdale	97	94	3.9	52	61	5.3	0.06	2.42	-3.07	44	1.73	34.80	2.37	107
Milford	97	93	3.9	56	61	5.8	0.44	7.46	-1.03	88	1.49	37.09	2.59	107
Modena	95	92	3.7	53	58	5.5	0.40	6.34	-2.90	69	1.72	39.38	4.66	113
Rosette	94	92	7.4	49	57	1.3	0.00	M	M	M	1.69	M	M	M
Dixie		102	4.6		74	6.8	0.00	5.93	-4.90	53	1.87	44.55	5.07	113
St George	106	102	3.0	70	75	7.0	0.00	3.55	-3.90	48	1.86	45.93	5.04	112
Zion National Park	105	102	6.3	72	73	6.5	0.00	8.31	-5.90	58	1.88	43.16	5.11	113
North Central		95	6.7		62	4.0	0.06	11.80	-5.98	67	1.70	34.31	3.32	111
Farmington Courthouse	98	96	6.2	60	63	4.1	0.01	14.90	-6.18	71	1.77	34.39	2.17	107
Logan USU Exp Stn ...	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Logan Utah State Univ	96	93	8.2	58	62	4.2	0.00	8.92	-8.68	51	1.68	31.60	3.49	112
Ogden Pioneer PH ...	97	94	5.3	60	65	3.5	0.06	11.52	-9.28	55	1.42	M	M	M
Pleasant Grove	95	92	4.4	60	64	6.3	0.01	11.70	-3.95	75	1.62	34.22	2.27	107
Provo BYU	100	96	4.6	60	64	4.6	0.01	11.08	-8.12	58	1.78	37.56	3.65	111
Salt Lake City NWSFO	98	94	4.2	61	65	3.0	0.37	12.54	-2.12	86	1.67	33.43	1.88	106
Tooele	102	97	11.0	64	66	5.6	0.08	13.33	-3.84	78	1.80	35.14	5.65	119
Tremonton	98	95	7.7	58	62	3.7	0.02	10.43	-5.65	65	1.74	33.84	4.14	114
Trenton	96	94	9.0	46	49	0.9	0.00	M	M	M	1.86	M	M	M
South Central		90	3.2		59	4.2	0.41	9.57	-2.02	81	1.63	35.77	3.06	109
Bryce Canyon Natl Pk Hd	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cedar City FAA Airport	95	89	2.5	53	58	1.3	0.33	7.95	-2.02	80	1.62	34.33	1.74	105
Escalante	96	92	6.0	55	57	4.0	0.72	4.01	-4.27	48	1.76	38.89	4.84	114
Fillmore	96	91	2.6	60	63	5.1	0.19	11.88	-2.57	82	1.60	35.17	2.36	107
Kanab	95	89	-0.1	57	61	3.3	0.71	M	M	M	1.58	M	M	M
Levan	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	12.84	-0.70	95	M	34.59	1.79	105
Manti	91	88	3.6	55	58	4.9	0.08	10.83	-1.17	90	1.56	32.96	2.40	108
Nephi	97	92	1.3	52	62	6.3	0.02	11.05	-2.53	81	1.63	35.19	1.54	105
New Harmony	92	89	2.9	58	60	2.5	0.17	15.08	-1.34	92	1.58	35.15	2.75	108
Panguitch	95	90	7.5	48	52	6.4	0.97	5.27	-3.37	61	1.73	37.92	5.78	118
Richfield Radio KSVC .	96	89	2.8	50	56	4.1	0.47	7.23	-0.21	97	1.65	37.75	4.30	113
Northern Mountains		88	7.7		52	4.2	0.09	15.28	-5.24	73	1.55	29.89	2.51	109
Heber	101	97	12.0	48	52	4.9	0.13	9.14	-5.67	62	1.94	34.31	3.07	110
Morgan	97	96	8.9	50	52	2.9	0.00	12.54	-5.13	71	1.63	M	M	M
Olmstead Powerhouse	99	95	7.1	59	62	4.4	0.00	13.12	-5.47	71	1.51	34.44	1.84	106
Scofield-Skyline Mine .	82	79	5.1	47	49	4.6	0.04	20.59	-2.45	89	1.35	27.19	3.53	115
Silver Lake Brighton ..	80	74	4.8	46	50	7.4	0.26	30.40	-10.63	74	1.19	23.07	1.42	107
Woodruff	93	88	8.4	34	43	1.2	0.12	5.89	-2.11	74	1.68	30.44	2.69	110
Uinta Basin		87	0.2		56	4.7	0.18	5.48	-2.12	73	1.48	34.82	1.92	106
Duchesne	89	83	-2.5	53	56	2.4	0.46	5.46	-2.99	65	1.42	32.63	1.54	105
Fort Duchesne	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Jensen	99	92	3.0	52	56	5.7	0.03	4.60	-2.56	64	1.47	38.00	3.95	112
Vernal Arpt	93	87	0.2	52	57	6.1	0.05	6.37	-0.80	89	1.54	33.84	1.53	105
Southeast		96	4.7		66	6.3	0.13	4.79	-2.90	59	1.71	37.34	2.58	108
Arches Natl Park Hq ..	103	101	4.9	68	72	5.7	0.02	M	M	M	1.84	38.51	1.55	104
Blanding	95	92	5.5	56	61	5.2	0.45	7.73	-3.36	70	1.68	35.17	2.63	108
Ferron	95	90	4.8	56	60	4.8	0.11	4.41	-2.82	61	1.60	34.23	3.46	111
Green River Aviation ..	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Hanksville	105	99	3.7	60	68	9.6	0.04	1.87	-2.78	40	1.83	41.47	2.70	107
Moab	104	101	4.5	64	69	5.9	0.01	5.14	-2.66	66	1.63	M	M	M
Statewide		92	5.0		60	4.6	0.17	9.29	-3.70	70	1.66	35.42	2.97	109

M=Missing Data

Data and Statistics for August 12-18, 2000

Division and Station	GDD Base 40				GDD Base 50				Cooling Degree Days			
	Week Total	Since March 1			Week Total	Sinch March 1			Week Total	Since January 1		
		Accum	Dep	%Norm		Accum	Dep	%Norm		Accum	Dep	%Norm
Western	190	3,324	211	107	153	2,473	226	110	77	708	156	130
Callao	197	3,404	253	108	159	2,492	269	112	83	751	212	139
Delta	196	3,305	149	105	158	2,442	170	107	92	777	148	124
Eskdale	200	3,320	90	103	161	2,452	114	105	84	715	81	113
Milford	170	3,307	269	109	139	2,478	264	112	69	685	154	129
Modena	190	3,286	293	110	152	2,499	316	114	67	612	185	143
Rosette	188	M	M	M	150	M	M	M	65	M	M	M
Dixie	244	4,531	291	111	208	3,580	324	110	158	1,968	391	124
St George	246	4,778	440	110	211	3,815	447	113	162	2,211	517	131
Zion National Park	242	4,284	141	111	204	3,345	202	106	154	1,724	265	118
North Central	202	3,505	264	108	165	2,509	249	111	90	936	262	139
Farmington Courthouse	208	3,593	307	109	169	2,573	257	111	98	1,031	322	145
Logan USU Exp Stn ...	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Logan Utah State Univ	206	3,176	214	107	167	2,202	216	111	87	709	205	141
Ogden Pioneer PH ...	183	M	M	M	151	M	M	M	83	M	M	M
Pleasant Grove	211	3,476	260	108	172	2,485	223	110	87	797	195	132
Provo BYU	209	3,584	175	105	173	2,610	172	107	102	971	193	125
Salt Lake City NWSFO	215	3,614	246	107	177	2,601	222	109	101	1,054	219	126
Tooele	218	3,732	446	114	180	2,718	434	119	115	1,163	462	166
Tremonton	205	3,360	200	106	168	2,377	221	110	93	830	238	140
Trenton	159	M	M	M	129	M	M	M	46	M	M	M
South Central	192	3,278	250	108	153	2,393	246	112	62	608	149	148
Bryce Canyon Natl Pk Hd	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cedar City FAA Airport	193	3,230	94	103	153	2,358	139	106	60	558	-6	99
Escalante	189	3,417	333	111	150	2,578	376	117	68	787	328	171
Fillmore	208	3,603	345	111	171	2,622	302	113	82	818	166	125
Kanab	199	M	M	M	158	M	M	M	65	M	M	M
Levan	M	3,204	185	106	M	2,307	168	108	M	639	137	127
Manti	192	3,082	203	107	150	2,151	190	110	54	467	134	140
Nephi	206	3,475	345	111	167	2,510	267	112	82	726	101	116
New Harmony	196	3,366	156	105	157	2,418	152	107	62	624	87	116
Panguitch	168	2,914	333	113	128	2,219	367	120	38	286	181	272
Richfield Radio KSVC	181	3,211	255	109	143	2,370	251	112	50	569	219	162
Northern Mountains	158	2,455	164	108	119	1,652	150	112	35	279	101	389
Heber	170	2,713	129	105	135	1,980	155	109	65	416	241	237
Morgan	145	M	M	M	115	M	M	M	52	M	M	M
Olmstead Powerhouse	176	3,314	53	102	143	2,393	92	104	80	826	149	122
Scofield-Skyline Mine	158	2,135	297	116	100	1,304	251	124	1	43	34	473
Silver Lake Brighton ..	153	1,848	240	115	90	985	117	113	4	21	18	778
Woodruff	143	2,267	100	105	128	1,598	135	109	9	89	62	333
Uinta Basin	176	3,073	132	104	132	2,201	120	106	44	475	93	124
Duchesne	181	3,112	159	105	131	2,168	120	106	29	419	60	117
Fort Duchesne	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Jensen	159	3,162	204	107	121	2,356	223	110	52	585	183	146
Vernal Arpt	189	2,944	33	101	145	2,079	18	101	50	422	34	109
Southeast	212	3,730	272	108	174	2,797	283	112	108	1,004	317	149
Arches Natl Park Hq ..	238	4,061	50	101	201	3,108	94	103	147	M	M	M
Blanding	202	3,536	371	112	164	2,599	367	116	79	890	336	161
Ferron	198	3,398	326	111	154	2,443	332	116	67	712	234	149
Green River Aviation ..	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M
Hanksville	228	3,925	341	110	188	3,037	340	113	129	1,409	382	137
Moab	196	M	M	M	165	M	M	M	120	M	M	M
Statewide	193	3,318	230	108	154	2,419	228	111	76	745	190	175

M=Missing Data



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Thunderstorm Showers

One of the characteristics of summer precipitation is its great spatial variability. A shower may deluge one area with more than an inch of precipitation, but completely miss other areas only miles away. The structure of thunderstorm cells aids in understanding the erratic nature of thunderstorm precipitation.

When upward movements are triggered in warm surface air, thermals develop. If the air is moist, condensation begins at a low level and the thermals become cumulus clouds. More warm, moist air is pulled into a thermal as it continues its upward growth, becoming first a towering cumulus and later a cumulonimbus (thunderhead). As the cloud develops, its water droplets grow large enough to become raindrops. An updraft in a cumulonimbus cloud has such great speed that it carries the raindrops upward

toward the top of the cloud.

As a developing cumulonimbus approaches the top of the troposphere, a downdraft develops and the cloud top flattens into an anvil shape. The large precipitation accumulation that was carried upward is brought to earth in the downdraft as an intense shower sometimes referred to as a "cloudburst." The shower, however, is limited to the area of the downdraft which is only a few miles in diameter. Although the downdraft will only last for an hour or less, it will travel (generally east or northeast) leaving a band of heavy precipitation in its path. Other parts of a valley may be completely dry unless they are hit by other thunderstorm cells. We should note, however, when there is one cumulonimbus cloud in an area, there is normally enough moisture for others to form.